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Office of Personnel Management

# **Safety Technician Series**

**GS-0019**

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# Safety Technician Series

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## SERIES DEFINITION

This series includes positions that involve support work in accident prevention, including inspecting safety conditions, investigating and compiling data on accidents, and providing information on safety standards and techniques. Positions require a practical knowledge of work processes and equipment, environmental conditions, and established safety standards, protective devices and accident prevention measures.

This series supersedes the Safety Inspection Series, GS-1820. The standards for the Safety Inspection Series, GS-1820, issued in October 1949 are rescinded.

## EXCLUSIONS

The Safety Technician Series does not include positions that involve primarily:

1. Planning, developing, evaluating, and advising on safety management concerned with the elimination, prevention and control of occupational safety hazards. Such positions are classified in the [Safety Management Series, GS-0018](#).
2. Professional engineering and scientific work in the elimination, prevention and control of safety hazards. Such positions are classified in the [Safety Engineering Series, GS-0803](#), or other specialized engineering or science series.
3. Support work in the field of sanitation to eliminate health hazards and control the spread of diseases. Such positions are classified in the [Environmental Health Technician Series, GS-0698](#).
4. Inspections to enforce public health, air safety, mine safety and other laws and regulations for which specific occupations have been established. Such positions are classified in the appropriate series of the [Investigation Group, GS-1800](#).
5. Investigation of fires and inspection for fire prevention. Such positions are classified in the [Fire Protection and Prevention Series, GS-0081](#).
6. Clerical work in the review and processing of accident claims, reports, and other data. Such positions are classified in the appropriate clerical series, (e.g., [Clerk-Typist Series, GS-0322](#), [Statistical Assistant Series, GS-1531](#), etc.).

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Safety technicians perform support work in the safety field that involves obtaining and giving factual information about safety. Safety technicians perform routine inspection and investigative work in enforcing occupational safety and health laws.

Safety technicians look for and report on unsafe mechanical and physical conditions and work practices bordering on carelessness or negligence that may involve injury to persons or damage to property, or both. Safety technicians report findings and recommendations to the supervisor. Their findings result typically from observing violations of established requirements and safe practices.

Safety technicians investigate accidents and review accident reports for such items as specific causes and the nature of injuries or damage to property to assure proper coding. They issue and maintain personal protective equipment. They provide supervisors, employees and safety representatives with clearly applicable information concerning accident hazards in the work setting. Safety technicians conduct safety meetings with workers to give or reinforce training in safe work methods, and standard accident prevention techniques such as use of protective clothing, defensive driving, etc.

Safety technicians apply technical knowledge of the trades and craft or general safety practices type. Safety technicians frequently perform duties which require a general understanding of the construction, operation, and capacity of industrial machinery, construction machinery, and Diesel, automotive, and marine equipment. A knowledge of blueprints and designs may also be utilized in the performance of work in this series. Such knowledge may have been gained through vocational training or practical work experience.

## TITLES

The title *Safety Technician* is established for nonsupervisory positions in this series at grades GS-4 and above.

The title *Supervisory Safety Technician* is established for supervisory positions.

## EVALUATION NOTES

This is a one-grade interval series.

This material does not include grade-level criteria. Comparisons with standards for various technician occupations and the [Fire Protection and Prevention Series, GS-0081](#), Part II, are appropriate for positions in this series.

Technician positions that involve supervisory duties and require supervisory abilities should be evaluated by Part I of the [Supervisory Grade-Evaluation Guide](#).